



GHOSTRIDER GAZETTE

Golf Battery, 1-79 Field Artillery

Class 51-09, 31JUL09, Week



Dear Friends and Family Members,

Hello again from beautiful Fort Sill, Oklahoma. The weather has been a little cooler and wet and we have received a good deal of rain this week. However, your Soldiers are doing well and remain focused on training. Basic Combat Training (BCT) is conducted in three phases consisting of three weeks each (red, white and blue phases). Your Soldiers have successfully completed red phase and will transfer into white phase. This means they will no longer be under the complete control of the Drill Sergeant. Selected Soldiers will begin taking leadership positions within their platoons and executing tasks directed by the Drill Sergeants. This allows them to work on the basics of time management, prioritization of work, communication skills, and completing tasks.

We ended last week with taking the first aid skills learned in the classroom to a field environment. During the Soldiers first aid STX (situational training exercise) they were given a field class on field sanitation, wildlife, disease prevention and also went through practical exercises on how to initially evaluate, treat and move a casualty in a combat situation using a variety of techniques.

At the beginning of this week your Soldiers were able to tour the Ft. Sill Artillery Museum and were given tours of the history of Soldiers in the U.S. Army and their contributions to the Field Artillery. If you have time during family day, I recommend you going to see the museum and all of its great history. On Tuesday, your Soldiers were taught a communications class and how to use the Army's radio systems and how to speak on them properly using correct radio protocol. We ended this week by introducing your Soldiers to Basic Rifle Marksmanship. We began by teaching them about their M16 rifle, its capabilities and how to disassemble/ assemble and clean it. We instructed them on range procedures and the basics of how to fire a weapon accurately. Then the fun stuff begins. We use a large indoor animated range that gives us immediate feedback to ensure the Soldier can shoot accurately. We ensure that all Soldiers are able to get all rounds in a small area (grouping). Your Soldiers then move out doors to a range and do the same thing with live rounds. Once this is completed we adjust every Soldier's weapon so that the group of rounds that they are shooting will hit a specific area on a target (zeroing). We will continue our weapons training over the next few weeks. Your Soldier will qualify with their weapon next week on Saturday, 08August09. Your Soldiers were also trained on how to use hand grenades. After practicing with four dummy grenades, they took an exciting step in Basic Training by throwing two LIVE hand grenades safely. Then the Soldiers were given a demonstration of other various smoke and incendiary grenades and tested on their identification and markings of the various grenades they might use in the future.

I encourage you to write to your Soldiers. A little bit of encouragement from home goes a long way and Soldiers are receiving mail. Letters are fine, but do not send packages, magazines, food, or other contraband items (electronics, candy, soda, tobacco, pornography, etc...). All items received that are not authorized will be held with personal baggage and released to the Soldier upon graduation. Contraband will be confiscated and disposed of. Letters should be mailed to: **(Line 1) Soldier's Name (Line 2) Golf Battery, 1-79 FA, PLT #___ (Line 3) 5001 North Rothwell Rd (Line 4) Fort Sill, OK 73503.** I will keep you up to date on your Soldiers training using this email format. If there is someone else that you know that would like to receive these updates please send me their email address. If you have questions pertaining to an emergency concerning your Soldier, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to meeting you all in the future. Respectfully,
KYLE A. LIPPOLD

CPT, FA
Commanding

Ghostrider Soldier's In Action!



Soldiers receive a field first aid class during a situational training exercise.



Soldiers work to lift a 'litter casualty' over an obstacle during first aid STX.



Soldiers tour the Ft. Sill Field Artillery Museum to learn of the Army and Soldiers past.



Drill Sergeant Beasley tests a Soldier on his knowledge of different types of hand grenades.

Additional Photos of Ghost Rider Soldier's In Action!

First Aid STX



Hand Grenades

